



Flathead Conservation District  
133 Interstate Lane, Kalispell, MT 59901  
www.flatheadcd.org 406-752-4220

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### **CALL TO ORDER & ATTENDANCE**

Chair Ronald Buentemeier called the November 13, 2018, 310-Stream Permit meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. in the conference room.

### **Board members present:**

Ronald Buentemeier, Chair; Dean Sirucek, Secretary/Treasurer; Lori Curtis, Supervisor; John Ellis, Supervisor; Verdell Jackson, Supervisor, being a quorum of the Board.

**Board members absent:** Pete Woll, Vice Chair; Mark Siderius, Supervisor. Absence is excused.

Also in attendance were: Hailey Graf and Ginger Kauffman, FCD staff; Leo Rosenthal and Kenny Breidinger, MFWP; Tom Fontenoy; Ron Smith; Doug Siderius; David & Jacqueline Stalowy; Steven Knoll; Jamie Graham, Applied Water Consulting.

### **MINUTES**

Dean Sirucek motioned "to approve the minutes of the October 22, 2018, Business meeting as presented." Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Letter from Montana State Fund (Work Comp) - Flathead CD will be receiving a dividend based on the paid premium and any incurred losses during dividend year 2016.
2. Email: National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) publications: *NACD eResource, Forestry Notes, Conservation Clips* [www.nacdnet.org](http://www.nacdnet.org)
3. Email: FWP news release: Interested in becoming a Lone Pine Trail Steward - contact Derrick Rather 406-755-2706, Ext. 3, [derrick.rathe@mt.gov](mailto:derrick.rathe@mt.gov)
4. Email: Public comment sought on proposed administrative rules for sage grouse mitigation and Stewardship grants. Comments on the proposed rules must be received by 11:59 P.M. on November 19, 2018.
  - Mitigation documents <https://sagegrouse.mt.gov/Team>.
  - Proposed rules <http://www.mtrules.org/gateway/ShowNoticeFile.asp?TID=8844>.
  - Submit comments <https://appsi.dnrc.mt.gov/pubcomment/>
  - Unable to attend the hearing. Submit written comments <https://appsi.dnrc.mt.gov/pubcomment/> or by mail to Carolyn Sime, Sage Grouse Resource Program Manager, MT Dept. of Natural Resources and Conservation, PO Box 201601, Helena, MT 59620-1601.
5. Article in 10/24/2018 Whitefish Pilot regarding the Montana Watershed



Coordination Council's 2018 Symposium, and visits to the Living Wetlands Interpretive Nature Trail, Whitefish Water Treatment Plant, Whitefish School District's Center for Sustainability and Entrepreneurship, and the stream bank restoration site at Kurt Reimer's on Haskill Creek that Flathead Conservation District was involved with.

6. Email: Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD) *District Dispatch* from Director Dan McGowan
7. Email: Dr. Fred Provenza, Peter Rice from U of M, Rick Caquelin with NRCS, Dr. Jane Mangold, and Jeff Mosley from MSU will speak at the 2018 Fall Meeting of the International Mountain Section of the Society for Range Management on Friday, November 2, 8:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M., Crystal Inn, located on the east side of Interstate 15 at the airport exit (#277) in Great Falls, MT. Cost is \$40/person. Contact [amakoutz7@gmail.com](mailto:amakoutz7@gmail.com)
8. Email: Montana Watershed Coordination Council 10/25/2018 issues of *Watershed News* <https://mtwatersheds.org>
9. Email: Flathead Audubon newsletter *the Pileated Post* [www.FlatheadAudubon.org](http://www.FlatheadAudubon.org)
10. Email: Whitefish Planning Board meeting November 15, 2018, 6:00 P.M. Whitefish City Council Chambers. [www.cityofwhitefish.org](http://www.cityofwhitefish.org)
11. Email: Soil & Water Conservation Districts of Montana (SWCDM) SWCDM in partnership with the Missouri River Conservation Districts Council announces Ranching for Rivers, a cost-share program to help ranchers with riparian pasture fencing projects. Contact Jessica Makus, 406-443-5711 [jessica@macdnet.org](mailto:jessica@macdnet.org).
12. Email: SWCDM & NRCS present an Invasive Grasses Workshop, November 30, 1:00 P.M., USDA office conference room, Roundup, MT. Contact Hayden Nelson SGI Range Conservationist, NRCS~ SWCDM, 406-425-4960.
13. Email: Soil & Water Conservation Districts of Montana (SWCDM) publication *The Montana Conservationist* <https://swcdm.org>
14. Email: New USDA Service Center open house, Friday, December 7, 747 Main Street, Roundup, MT.
15. Email: Invasive Grasses Workshop, November 30, 747 Main, Roundup, MT. A workshop oriented around landowners and agency employees alike to address the abundant amount of Cheatgrass, Japanese Brome, Ventenata, and Medusahead that is invading our counties. How can we work together as ranchers, neighbors, agency employees and board members to be proactive against these grasses? Contact Hayden Nelson, SGI Range Conservationist, NRCS~ SWCDM, 406-425-4960

## **FINANCIAL**

The following bills were reviewed:

1. Byte Savvy \$265.00
2. Flathead Beacon \$528.00
3. MontanaSky Networks \$20.00
4. Mountain States Leasing – Kalispell \$1545.56

Lori Curtis motioned “to approve the bills as presented.” Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.



**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** No one was present to comment on items not listed on the agenda.

### **310**

**Bean**, FL2017050, Flathead River, permit extension request: Dean Sirucek motioned “to approve a one-year permit extension.” John Ellis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Coit**, FL2018061, Flathead River, bank stabilization: Pete Woll was unable to attend but had asked that the board approve the application if the contractor will explain the project and if Kenny Breidinger agrees.

Doug Siderius, the contractor, explained that this is an ongoing project. The Coits have been working on it for several years, but now several spots are failing and need maintenance. They also want to extend the work down river where the bank is continuing to slough. He described their typical approach, which is to flatten the bank slope, and at the bench at the bottom, place rip rap to approximately one foot above the highwater mark. Then the bank is reshaped, reseeded with grass and revegetated. The property owners’ main concern is the spots that are failing in front of their house, but they also want to extend the stabilization work down the river about 300-400 ft.

Kenny Breidinger stated he and Pete Woll went to the site; however, Doug was not able to attend the onsite inspection. They only focused on the lower section, not the area right in front of the house. They went to the farthest extent of the rip rap, which is an area with cottonwood and other large trees. There is some erosion where the rip rap ends. Kenny asked Doug if he plans to keep the trees and vegetation. Doug stated that he plans to keep the trees and intends to work from both sides of the trees and get rock as far up as he can without disturbing them. He added that if the trees fall, he intends to replace and fix that section. Doug stated the sloughing is ongoing and the increased boat traffic on the river has made it worse. He reiterated that they have been maintaining the area but now have several areas near the house where the rock has settled over time and they would like to put more rock on top. These areas are about 30 feet long. He also said they need to extend the work downriver, but they are not planning to remove the cottonwood trees even though they may eventually fall into the river. Kenny stated that he is ok with that.

Dean Sirucek asked if what was being discussed was in the application or if it was a modification. Kenny stated the application does not include the spots in front of the house, but he and Pete will include the additional information as a modification in the Team Member Report.

Dean Sirucek motioned “to approve the application with modifications per the Team Member Report.” Lori Curtis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Gabbert**, FL2018049C, Bales Creek, complaint: An onsite inspection was scheduled for Thursday, November 29, 2:00 P.M. at the site.



**Gardner**, FL2018045C, Whitefish River, complaint: Ronald Buentemeier explained that the area of activity is on a backwater to Whitefish River. The complaint indicated that the landowners had used a backhoe to dig out the backwater area to allow more water to enter from the river. He stated that the team conducted a site investigation, and they confirmed that a gravel area about 25 feet long was excavated. They agreed that the activity was a violation, and the best option for moving forward is to reseed the area and let it recover naturally. Kenny Breidinger agreed and stated they excavated gravel with a backhoe, effectively opening the oxbow. The excavated material was placed on the bank. Any repair would require heavy equipment and cause more damage. He noted the area is already starting to fill in naturally, and the best alternative is to seed with grass seed and let it recover.

Ronald Buentemeier motioned “this is a violation. As remediation, the landowner must seed the disturbed area. We suggest the landowner go to Cenex and get dry seed mix to reseed the exposed soils. No other work is to be done in the area. Leave the area to re-heal naturally.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Hale**, FL2018060, Bowser Spring Creek, fill: Verdell Jackson showed photos of the site and explained that the fill is for a secondary septic drain field. He described that the district only has jurisdiction over a small section of the project where approximately 1-1 ½ foot depth of fill will be added. Ronald Buentemeier asked how much higher the drain field area is above the cattails. Steven Knoll, representative for the Hale property, described that the area varies in elevation but this section, where the fill is needed, is only about 1 – 1 ½ feet above the cattails. The fill needs to be spread out approximately 3-4 feet to reach the necessary size.

Verdell showed additional pictures of the site and described the stream as approximately 30 feet away. Ronald asked if the depression was originally created by the stream and if it had changed channels in the past. Steven replied that, to his knowledge, the stream has not changed channels. He stated his family has owned the property since 1970 and has not noticed a change in the course of the stream in that time. Ronald asked Steven if they already have a floodplain permit for the project. Steven responded yes. Dean asked if the purpose of the project was to extend the area of fill to provide enough space for a septic drain field. Steven replied affirmatively and stated the work is to satisfy the requirements for an alternate drain field site. Ronald added that it is now a requirement to have room for an alternate site. Hale has a permit for the current site, but this proposed work will satisfy the conditions for the alternate site.

The board, Kenny, and Steven discussed the proposed fill dimensions and quantity of fill required, and they reviewed the site plans. The team agreed that the amount of fill in 310-jurisdiction would not be likely to exceed two truckloads. Verdell stated the area is already staked out and is approximately 20-30 feet away from the stream. Kenny added that according to the provided site plan, the stream moves away from the project area, so the total area in 310-jurisdiction is small. The only place it is close to the project area is on the west side which is why the fill needs to be brought in. Most of the project area, that is within our jurisdiction, is on the west side.



Discussion continued regarding having the permit specify a maximum amount of fill that could be used in the area under 310-jurisdiction. Everyone agreed that a maximum of 20 yards would be enough. Verdell verified that when a follow-up inspection is done, only the area within our jurisdiction will be reviewed, not the entire project. Kenny added that the engineered designs include the specific locations and the amounts of fill on the map. Additionally, the application specifies that the amount of fill will not exceed the specified dimensions which can be confirmed at the work completion inspection. Ronald suggested that these specifics be included in the permit requirements.

Verdell Jackson motioned “to approve the application with modifications; with the condition that a maximum of 3 truckloads of fill material are put in the westerly most part of the project, which is under our jurisdiction.” Lori Curtis seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Verdell Jackson motioned to waive the 15-day waiting period.” Lori Curtis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Steven Knoll asked Ronald for his opinion about putting fill in the areas outside the District’s jurisdiction. Ronald suggested that he check with Flathead County Floodplain or an engineering firm.

**Isackson Family Trust**, FL2018063, unnamed, catch basin: Ronald Buentemeier stated the project is on the west end of Whitefish Lake where the end of a county road leads into private property. The property owners would like to deepen the ditch and put a pipe along the side of the road to move the runoff to a rocked ditch. Ronald explained he and Kenny Breidinger agree this is not a stream and is not under our jurisdiction. Kenny agreed, and stated it is surface runoff from the road which is running down the driveway and towards the house. There is no waterway that they could see at the time.

Ronald Buentemeier motioned “this is not a project.” Lori Curtis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**J&J Ranch/Shockey**, FL2018057C, Haskill Creek, complaint: Lori Curtis stated that she Kenny Breidinger and Pete Woll went to the site with Mr. Shockey. He has been running cattle at least one month out of the year along the stream, however, grazing is outside the district’s jurisdiction. Lori said that Mr. Shockey had expressed some desire to be a good steward and potentially put up an electric fence. They talked about that and noted the district could give him more information if needed.

Lori Curtis motioned “this is not a violation.” Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Juno**, FL2018034C, Walker Creek, complaint: This remains tabled until the Work Completion form for permit #FL2018038 is submitted.

**Juno**, FL2018038, Walker Creek, permit extension: Ronald Buentemeier explained the landowner is asking for a one-year extension to give him time to get the county floodplain permit before proceeding with work. He refreshed everyone on the details describing how the adjacent landowner did unauthorized work on Juno’s property.



Ronald Buentemeier motioned “to approve a permit extension to 8/1/2019.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Morton, FL2018044C, Whitefish River, complaint:** Ronald Buentemeier explained that the City of Whitefish required a contractor to build a trail along the Whitefish River, following the City’s specifications, as part of a private development. He showed photos from the onsite inspection and noted that Karin Hilding, an engineer with the City of Whitefish, and Doug Peppmeier, with TDH Engineering, attended. A 310-permit for the trail was not obtained by the developer, and an easement for the trail has now been dedicated to the City.

Valerie Kurth requested guidance from Donald MacIntyre, DNRC. Ronald suggested we have a meeting with the City of Whitefish because permitting has been inconsistent. Kenny Breidinger stated that permitting for 124-permits has been inconsistent as well. Ronald thought that even though the information from Don makes sense, a meeting with the City should happen first. Kenny agreed and stated the landowner hired consultants and paid for the engineering, design and construction, so they should have applied for a 310-permit. However, anything they do in the future would be a 124-permit because there is now an established easement on the property.

Discussion continued regarding requirements by the City of Whitefish, and 310 & 124 permitting. Kenny stated that we would not have allowed asphalt, and John Ellis added that we would have made them put the trail at the top of the bank, rather than next to the river. John stated that it is too late to require different materials or locations for this trail, but there are other sections, to the north and south, that will likely be developed soon. He stated that neither the City Public Works nor the City Planning Department understands the 310-law. There is not communication about 310 permits between the City and the developer. John expressed concern that if we do not accept jurisdiction here, we will never have a say because the City is able to avoid us by assuming it will later have 124-jurisdiction. He suggested that the district respond strongly because this problem will continue; we cannot do anything about what has already happened, but the problem will continue. John suggested we send a letter to the City describing what the 310-law is and how it applies so we can help prevent these issues. Then the City can have requirements and conditions, such as 310-permits, in future agreements with developers. John and Lori Curtis agreed that similar conditions are currently required, and they believed the City would be willing to discuss this with Flathead CD and FWP. Leo Rosenthal emphasized that paths need to conform to state laws and suggested providing language to the City for them to give to the party responsible for obtaining necessary permits, including 310 and 404. Dean Sirucek suggested expanding the meeting to include a planning board representative, a public works representative, and at least one city council member because we need a Memo of Understanding (MOU) that can go before the City council for a vote. Kenny asked why something would need to be voted on by the City Council to ensure that they follow the law. He stated that the path violates the Adopted Rules and similar projects had occurred in the past. We are not going to make them tear out what is already built, but moving forward, we could certainly require a setback or the use of gravel that would still meet the City’s standards. John suggested that we not get into specifics of material and path placement at the first meeting. Kenny agreed, but reiterated that there is still room for improvement and



this is an opportunity to engage the City and the landowners who are putting in the paths. We can reduce the impacts to the resources.

Hailey Graf reminded the group that they need to determine if it's a violation and if the violator needs to apply for an after the fact permit. Ronald expressed that he's not comfortable making that determination at this time because it has already been built to City specifications. Kenny expressed that he understands Ronald's concerns but reiterated that this is a violation of the Adopted Rules by a private party. Leo agreed that the consultant and engineer should know the rules, just like every other project. Kenny also stated that it does not have to include the city because the landowner and the consultant did the work. Lori suggested that it could be a violation without the District requiring them to tear it out. It would start a discussion and move the process forward. John suggested that we table the issue and send a letter to the city requesting a meeting.

John Ellis motioned "to table the complaint until the 310-meeting in December." Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The board discussed who should be at the meeting and determined that Ronald, John, Lori, Kenny and anyone else who is interested should be at the meeting. They decided that this meeting would be about educating the City, so the landowner would not need to attend. Kenny expressed concern about reaching landowners and engineers and John suggested we could have another meeting with the association of Montana engineers for this area. Lori reiterated that this is just the first step in fixing the problem. Kenny asked for clarification of the complaint process and how this meeting fits in. John responded that the complaint process has been tabled to give us time to have this meeting. Kenny stated that this is different from how the District normally handles the complaint process. Ronald and Lori agreed and explained this is a unique situation and there is a third party involved in the process. Ronald asked Kenny if he would have recommended denying the permit if the landowner had applied. Kenny stated that yes, he would have. He and John agreed that they would have required a modification, so the project met the Adopted Rules. Kenny explained that he would have tried to make it meet the Adopted Rules for trails.

Ronald stated we need to "make a plan" for what we are requiring the City to do before having a meeting with them. John stated that we are not proposing to develop a specific plan for the Whitefish trails, but rather, to get the City to acknowledge that the 310-law does apply to projects within the City of Whitefish and they will communicate that fact to engineering firms, so the law is followed. First, we need them to acknowledge the District's jurisdiction. Ronald stated that they could alternatively require the developer to grant them the land, making it a 124-permit, and questioned if that would gain us anything. Kenny explained that when administering 124 permits, he still tries to follow the District's Adopted Rules to minimize impacts. Lori suggested having another meeting to discuss the plan.

John Ellis motioned "to send a letter to the City Manager of the City of Whitefish requesting a meeting with the City Director of Public Works, Director of the Planning Department, and a member of the City Council, to discuss projects within the City of Whitefish within the jurisdiction of the Flathead CD." Lori Curtis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.



**Smith**, FL2018068, Swan River, dock/gangway/stairs/landing: An onsite inspection was scheduled for Thursday, November 29, 9:30 A.M. at the site.

**Stalowy**, FL2018064C, Bear Creek, complaint: Ronald Buentemeier explained that at the previous meeting, David Stalowy was asked to submit an after the fact application, which he has done. Application #FL2018069 satisfies the complaint.

**Stalowy**, FL2018069, Bear Creek, boardwalk: Ronald Buentemeier stated he, Pete Woll, and Leo Rosenthal conducted an onsite inspection, and proposed granting Mr. Stalowy a permit to complete the boardwalk with conditions. The work is to be completed by July 1, 2019. Ronald noted that the project has taken too long and needs to be completed sooner than the requested end date of November 30, 2019. Ronald reviewed items in the Team Member Report that will also be included in the permit.

Leo asked for clarification about the standards for treatment for wood products. Ronald stated that Mr. Stalowy provided documentation that the wood is treated and meets EPA standards. Dean Sirucek asked for clarification about the width of the boardwalk. Leo stated 10 feet. Dean asked about criteria for driving the pilings due to soft material on the north side. Ronald responded they will drive the pilings until they can't go in any farther, are using 8x8 posts, and have provided a detailed plan in the application. Ronald suggested David Stalowy space the planks one inch apart, rather than ¼ inch apart, which will prevent moisture and rot. David agreed. Ronald also clarified that the location of the new walkway/small bridge will be within 20 feet (plus or minus) of the previous walk way.

Ronald Buentemeier motioned "to approve the application with modifications per the Team Member Report and the plans Mr. Stalowy submitted. The 15-day waiting period is waived." Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Toth**, FL2018066, Swift Creek, bank stabilization: Jamie Graham, Applied Water, stated that the application is for a project along Swift Creek. She explained that this project was previously permitted through the Conservation District, but there were issues with getting a permit from the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE). The only change to the previous application is a reduction in the scope. In 2016, there was a high-water event that created a lot of bank erosion issues. For this project they have reduced the total length to about 285 linear feet on four sections of stream. On each section, they will stabilize the bank with rip rap and willow plantings. This work will help stabilize the creek beds, prevent further erosion, and prevent the creek from cutting through the landowner's property. They have reduced the scope of the project to four sections; the previously-approved permit contained those four plus two others. Ronald Buentemeier asked if those sections had had any previous work. Jamie responded that these four sections have not had any work previously, but work has been done on other sections along Swift Creek. Dean Sirucek added that this is an extension of previous work Ronald asked when the previous permit was approved. Jamie responded that it was in 2016 and it is expiring. They would like to get the project completed this winter. Ronald asked about their difficulties in getting an ACOE permit for the project. Jamie stated that ACOE requires mitigation for projects over a certain size (300 feet) and that the required mitigation work would be cost prohibitive, so they reduced the



size to below the level which ACOE requires mitigation. Lori Curtis added that the original stream length to be treated was 900 feet and the current proposal has been reduced to 285 feet. Lori also explained that they already have their other permits and would like to get the project completed during low water.

Lori Curtis and Kenny Breidinger discussed what they remembered of the previous application and how it differs from the current proposal. Lori suggested that an onsite visit might be helpful, and Kenny stated he would like to look at the site to see if previous conditions specified in the application would still apply to the current proposal. Lori stated that she has never seen the original permit and expressed concern that the current proposal lists several alternatives, but it's not clear if the preferred alternative and the chosen treatments are the same as what was originally approved. Ronald agreed that the team should look at the original permit.

Lori Curtis motioned "to table the application until the November business meeting." Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Copies of the original permit will be sent to Lori, Kenny and Dean.

**Weaver Entities Inc., FL2017060, Flathead River, permit extension request:** Lori Curtis motioned "to approve a one-year permit extension." John Ellis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Weaver Entities Inc., FL2018067, Flathead River trib., sediment removal:** An onsite inspection was scheduled for Thursday, November 29, 10:45-10:50 AM. at the site.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Letter of Support:** Hailey Graf reported a letter of support has been requested for a grant application to support Samantha Tappenbeck's position as Water Resource Specialist with the Soil and Water Conservation Districts of Montana (SWCDM), because her position runs out in June. Valerie Kurth had drafted a letter of support and asked the board to approve it. Hailey Graf read the draft letter.

Lori Curtis motioned "to send the letter of support as written regarding Samantha's position." Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Convention 2019:** Hailey Graf explained that Lake County CD requested support from Area V districts to hold the 2019 MACD Convention in Flathead County. Flathead CD already demonstrated general support for Area V hosting and submitted a letter last winter. Heidi Fleury, from Lake County CD, will take the lead role in planning, and the time commitment from Flathead CD is expected to be minimal. In reference to the email Heidi had sent, which had a preliminary suggestion of holding convention at the Cedar Creek Lodge in Whitefish, John Ellis stated that the Cedar Creek Lodge is expensive and other facilities should be researched. Lori Curtis said she thought the prices looked reasonable compared to Grouse Mountain Lodge in Whitefish.



Lori Curtis motioned “the Flathead CD supports having the MACD 2019 Convention in Flathead County.” John Ellis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Medical Insurance Renewal:** Medical insurance renewal figures for Flathead CD staff were reviewed by the board. John Ellis motioned “to approve the 2019 medical insurance renewal for Flathead CD staff in the amount of \$2001.59 per month.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **MATTERS OF THE BOARD/STAFF**

**CFAC FL2017052 before/after photos:** Hailey Graf stated that before and after photos of the pre-rip rap for the CFAC project were in the meeting folders. Ronald Buentemeier explained that in one spring runoff event, the Flathead River washed out the area to where the pre-rip rap and pilings were placed. Leo Rosenthal asked if the pre-rip rap held. Ronald replied yes, but everything else is gone. If Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) had allowed them to place the rip rap on the existing bank, it would have saved 50 – 60 feet of land. Kenny Breidinger stated this project was done to protect the ponds, which are still intact. Kenny stated that he took issue with the design and would have preferred the rip rap to be placed on the then existing bank, but noted that certainly, we don’t want to see those ponds go downstream. Haley Graf asked what the ponds were contaminated with. Kenny replied that at the time of the onsite inspection the lower ponds had not yet been evaluated for contaminants. Ronald noted that the two ponds by the river are hooked to ponds above via pipe. He added that they do know they will have to clean up the upper ponds.

**Ashley Creek Landowner Outreach Meeting:** Hailey Graf reported that Constanza Von der Pahlen, with Flathead Lakers, is doing a landowner outreach project on stretches of Ashley Creek. A public meeting will be held December 4<sup>th</sup>, at Smith Valley Grange, 6:00 P.M. The intent is to contact landowners on Ashley Creek and find out what they know about riparian areas, stream management and their concerns about the stream. It is also to make landowners aware of support programs and issues. Hailey noted that the district is excited about the meeting, as it will be a chance to showcase and implement the watershed restoration plan.

**Board Appointments & Representatives:** Supervisors were provided with a list of board appointments, representatives and term end dates. Lori Curtis stated that she had been appointed to UC3 by the Governor and has been asked to serve next year. Lori will provide the district office with a copy of the appointment paperwork when she receives it.

John Ellis asked when his appointment to the Flathead CD board ends. Ronald Buentemeier explained that depending on the end date, John would have to be re-appointed by the City of Whitefish, and letters would need to be sent by the district and John requesting re-appointment. A list of Supervisor terms will be emailed to the board and staff. This will be placed on the 11/26 meeting agenda.



**Other:**

- Dean Sirucek reported he declined the chairmanship for the Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD) Water Resources Committee, however he will remain on the committee.
- Dean Sirucek noted he will be attending a state wide TMDL Advisory Group (STAG) meeting in Helena in the next few weeks.

The next business-meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 25, 2018, 7:00 P.M. in the conference room of the USDA building at 133 Interstate Lane, Kalispell.

Adjournment: Lori Curtis motioned “to adjourn.” Dean Sirucek seconded. Motion carried unanimously. As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 P.M.

Submitted By:

Ginger Kauffman, Administrator

Hailey Graf, Assistant Conservationist

Valerie Kurth, Resource Conservationist

Minutes approved by FCD Board motion made on:

<u>11/26/2018</u>	<u>Ronald Buentemeier</u>	<u>Chair</u>
(Date)	(Signature)	(Title - Chair etc.)

